



VICTORIA *Life*

Sunday 4th May 2025

Therefore...
DO NOT
WORRY

MATTHEW 6:25-34



MATTHEW 6:25-34 – No Worries!

"Therefore, I tell you, do not worry about your life?" (v25)

Almost everyone worries and there is an endless number of things that we can worry about. Children worry, teenagers worry, parents worry, grandparents worry. Bosses worry, employees worry. Teachers worry, students worry. Pastors worry. Many people tell us not to worry but we don't seem to be able to shake the habit.

In the passage we are looking at how Jesus addresses the subject of worry. He tells us what it is, why we do it, and the antidote. Knowing what was ahead of Him, Jesus had more to worry about than any one of us, and yet He refused to succumb to worry. May God grant that, in studying His words, we may find the wisdom and help to do the same.



Next Week (11TH)

Next week Simon & Jez will be leading an All-Age Service at 10am.

There will also be an Evening Service at 6pm.



Advance Notice

There will be NO morning service at VBC on Sunday 1st June. The churches of Eastbourne will be meeting at the Wish Tower slopes - NOT the bandstand as previously advertised - for the annual "Thy Kingdom Come" event.

STAFF/OFFICE MATTERS

Staff movements for next week - Office is closed on Bank Holiday Monday

Chris off Tues

Colin

Phil in Tues am, Wed, Thurs pm

Kevin off Sat

Simon off Tues

Tim in Wed am & Fri am

Julie in Thurs

Nadine in Thurs

Lucy in Wed am, Thurs, Fri am

Sandra off Thurs

Jez in Wed & Fri

Senior Minister

Chris Short

PA to Senior Minister

Sandra Taylor

Family Ministries

Simon Grimes - Children

Church Administrator

Colin McMahon

Caretaker

Kevin Virgo

CAP Debt Centre Manager

Phil Papps

CAP Debt Coach

Nadine Crawford-Piper

Treasurer

Mark Evason

Finance Assistant

Julie Hanks

Ministry Assistants

Tim Nunn (Discipleship)

Lucy Craggs (Women)

Life Group Coordinator and interim Youth Leader

Jez Taylor

Staff contact details:

firstname@victoriabaptist.org.uk

(eg *chris@victoriabaptist.org.uk*)

VBC Bank Details

Account Name:

Victoria Baptist Church Trust

Account Number: 00010297

Sort Code: 40-52-40

01323 737974

Eldon Road, Eastbourne BN21 1UE

helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk

www.victoriabaptist.org.uk

- Sun 4 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
 10.00am Live @ 10 with Chris Short, including Communion
 7.00pm Xcav8
- Mon 5 OFFICE CLOSED - Bank Holiday
- Tue 6 10.00am World Religions with Jez Taylor
 Soaking in the Spirit (next meeting May 13th)
 7.30pm World Religions with Jez Taylor
- Wed 7 7.00am Prayer Meeting
 8.15am Community Fridge
 10.00am Vicky Bees
 6.30pm Boys Brigade
 6.45pm Alpha
 7.00pm Men's non-Curry Night
- Thu 8 7.30am Prayer Meeting (men only)
 Men's Fellowship (next meeting 15th May)
 1.00pm Thanksgiving Service for Henry Kirkman
 2.30pm Women's Fellowship with Chris Coles
 evening Omega 18-35 (for timing/venue contact Tim Nunn)
 7.30pm Ukraine Prayer Meeting
- Fri 9 10.00am Vicky Bees
 10.00am Outreach Prayer Meeting
 5.00pm Kids Club
 7.00pm Xpect
- Sat 10 10.00am Flow Cafe
 10.30am Creative Writing
 10.30am Book Club
- Sun 11 9.30am Prayer Meeting in Chris' office
 10.00am All-Age Service with Jez & Simon
 6.00pm Evening Service
 7.00pm Xcav8



Friends, Food & Fellowship - 16th May
 (Sign-up sheet is in the Welcome Centre)

PRAYER DIARY : 5TH - 11TH May

Monday *O Lord, You have searched me and You know me ... You perceive my thoughts from afar. Psalm 139:1,2* Let's start this week by acknowledging that we are truly loved by God just as we are. Father God, You are the only one who knows everything about me and still accepts and loves me. There is a freedom in my relationship with You in knowing that nothing can be hidden which is a blessing because we can be afraid of what other people may think of us if they truly knew us. Father be with us through every situation and trial, protecting us and guiding us.

Tuesday Please pray for God's spirit to move among those who He wants to attend the current Alpha course here at VBC. Pray for God to guide the leaders, the presentation, and that He will bless it.

Wednesday *Search me, O Lord, and know my heart, test me and know my anxious thoughts, see if there is any offensive way in me and lead me to life eternal. Psalm 139:23,24.* Please use these verses as a prayer. When God shows us our sin we can repent and be forgiven. By doing this we are continuing in God's "way everlasting" and we need to confess our sin and be put right with God to bring Him glory and for our good.

Thursday Pray for those clients who are working with CAP, that they will feel there is hope for their earthly needs, pray that the minds will be open to faith in God and the gospel and that Phil and his team will have the spiritual gifts they need to walk with them on their journey.

Friday *I praise You because I am fearfully and wonderfully made Psalm 139:14* In his Easter Sunday service Chris encouraged us to keep going in whatever work it is that God has given us to do whether a life group leader, Sunday school teacher etc despite how difficult it can sometimes be. Pray – Father, Your character goes into the creation of every person You made, so when we feel worthless or that we want to give up, pour Your Spirit into us to work with us, and help us to have respect for ourselves because you tell us in v14 that "Your works are wonderful"

Saturday *Where can I go from Your Spirit, where can I flee from Your presence? Psalm 139:7.* Heavenly Father we pray for Ukrainian soldiers, civilians, pastors; and also for Russian soldiers in dangerous, frightening and mentally overwhelming situations. We pray that the gospel and the Spirit will be working powerfully and that they will really feel Your everlasting arms around them, with them, at all times in all circumstances. Please end this war and show Yourself as the victor.

Sunday *Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love endures for ever. Ps 136:1.* O God, we praise You today for every blessing, that there is no judgement this side of eternity only mercy and forgiveness. Help us this week to tell the good news to anyone You guide us to.

FUEL FOR PRAYER

Flow Café

This month's Flow Café will be taking place next Saturday (10th), 10am-12noon. with all proceeds going towards the VBC Boys Brigade.

And at 10.30am the next session of Creative Writing, led by John Demetriou, will be taking place, downstairs in the Hive.

"The poet AE Houseman wrote, 'I a stranger and afraid in a world I have not made'.

Rabbi Joseph B. Soloveitchik wrote, 'True religion is what a man does with their loneliness'.

The topic for our next meeting is to write, in poetry or prose, something on the theme of 'loneliness'."

All are welcome - John will be happy to supply you with further details.

At the same time, Book Club will be meeting downstairs in the Snug where they will be discussing 'Silas Marner' by George Eliot.



Ladies Away Day May 17TH

We currently have 60 ladies from VBC looking forward to a day together at Glyndley Manor for a time of worship,

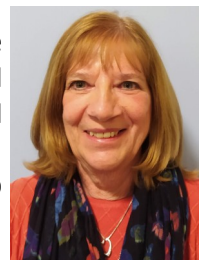
Bible teaching and a two course lunch followed by a choice of afternoon activities, or time to enjoy the grounds and pool! **We hope you can join us for this special day.** Tickets are available this Sunday - your last opportunity to purchase them. There is plenty of room for more to attend.

Do please let Lucy Craggs know if you have any dietary requirements at lucy@victoriabaptist.org.uk.

Thanksgiving

Please note that the Thanksgiving Service for Sue Collier will take place on Tuesday 27th May, at 12.30pm. A sign-up sheet will appear in the Welcome Centre shortly for those of you who would like to join Nigel & family for refreshments after the service.

Please note that Sue loved bright colours so the request is for no black garments, the brighter the better!



VICTORIA

Baptist Church Eastbourne

GRAND OPEN DAY

Come and join us to see what
Victoria is all about. What we do,
how we do it and what we have
done over the last 100 years.

OPEN DAY
SATURDAY
7TH JUNE 2025
10.00 - 13.00



**FIND MORE
INFORMATION AT**

VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH,
ELDON ROAD, EASTBOURNE

01323 737974

HELPDESK@VICTORIABAPTIST.ORG.UK

VICTORIABAPTIST.ORG.UK



VICTORIA
Eastbourne

VICTORIA BAPTIST CHURCH

LOU

PRESENTS

FELLINGHAM

— IN CONCERT —

DOORS OPEN AT 7PM

TICKET DETAILS:

REGULAR: £5.00

07.06.2025

ELDON ROAD - EASTBOURNE



Visit our website for more details victoriabaptist.org.uk
For tickets email helpdesk@victoriabaptist.org.uk or call 01323 737974

VICTORIA
Baptist Church Eastbourne

The Big Church Quiz Night

100 years of Victoria

FRIDAY 6th JUNE
7:30pm

VICTORIABAPTIST.ORG.UK



Sign-up sheet now available in the Welcome Centre

Teams of 6, any age but aimed at 13+

Cost of entry - £6 per team

See Jez or Colin with any queries

Seeing CHRIST IN THE BOOK OF PROVERBS

WITH THE HELP OF Tim Keller

Part 15: Finding Wisdom in Foolishness

'Let no one deceive himself. If anyone among you thinks that he is wise in this age, let him become a fool that he may become wise.'

1 Cor.3:18

1. At Jesus birth wise men came and bowed down to a baby. On the surface, this seems foolishness, but it is symbolic of how God works. In many of Shakespeare's plays we see glimpses of Biblical truth concealed and wisdom is no exception. It is often camouflaged in folly eg In 'King Lear' and 'As You Like It', it is the Fool and Touchstone (both court Jesters) who give the wisest advice while

those in authority, who should be wise, act foolishly. Proverbs uses the same technique and through its teaching about folly we learn what wisdom is.

2. We act foolishly when we ignore natural laws God has laid down for us, eg in gluttony, disrespect for parents, unfaithfulness, dishonesty, laziness, and suffer for it. We also act foolishly when we fail to realise we live in a fallen world where even when we obey God's good natural laws we can sometimes suffer. For example, Job's friends' world view was restricted to moralism - Job must have committed some great sin to cause such great suffering - without realising the 'hidden evil powers' at work in this world. The psalmist in Psalm 73 forgot the fundamental truth that God is good to His people even in suffering UNTIL he went to the house of God, was reminded of it, came to his senses, became wise again and in v22 declared 'how foolish' he had been.

3. There are 3 types of foolish behaviour identified in Proverbs and other parts of the Bible for all people, including believers, to avoid.

A. **The 'simple', shallow, gullible fool** who does not settle down and keeps looking for a new experience. *'The simple believes everything, but the prudent gives thought to his steps.'* (14:15)



B. **The obstinate, inflexible fool** who will not listen to advice and lets his or her temperament run away with them. *‘A fool despises his father's instruction, but whoever heeds reproof is prudent.’* (15:5) A good example in Scripture is Nabal (2Sam.25) whose name means ‘fool’, and who died because his greed made him blind to God’s instruction to be generous to those who helped him.

C. **The proud, arrogant, fool** who thinks he/she is better than others and presses home their advantage with delight, *“Scoffer” is the name of the arrogant, haughty man who acts with arrogant pride.”* (21:24)

4. **How can we avoid such foolishness?** Like the Wise Men who went to insignificant Bethlehem or the teachers of the law who listened to a 12 year old boy or the thousands who flocked to hear an itinerant poor rabbi **we have to come, ‘listen’, learn and apply Jesus teaching.** It is interesting to note how wisdom is depicted as a public teacher in Proverbs, eg Chapter 8, and how Jesus also told people in various public places to listen to Him and build ‘their house’ on His teaching, *‘Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.’* (Matt.7:24) for *‘something greater than Solomon is here’* (Lk.11:31). **God’s way of wisdom is foolishness to the world** i.e. coming in weakness to serve and die a criminal’s death yet, in God’s economy, those who believe the gospel message find forgiveness, a new way to live to avoid the ways of foolishness and hope of heaven for *‘The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.’* (1Cor.1:18)

5. Finally, to identify with the foolishness of God’s ways we need to ‘take up our cross daily’ and be prepared for the scorn and misunderstanding it will entail but, in the light of what we gain spiritually and in eternity, it is worth it!

Listen to the full sermon at: [What Kind of Fool Are You? – Gospel in Life](#)

John Demetriou

PARCHE - Seek Part Time Staff

PARCHE – THE CHURCH IN CARE HOMES – is a Christian Charity operating in the Eastbourne area. We are looking for a person who is passionate about bringing the love of God to older people living in Care Homes. This is a voluntary position with expenses paid. Please email a letter of interest and your CV to PARCHE at info@parche.org.uk The deadline is Monday 26th May 2025.



Flower Ministry

The flowers last week were donated by
Nigel & Sue Collier



Our hearts are full to bursting with the love and care we have received during and following my op. Please convey my thanks to the flower team too, what a wonderful surprise on a Monday morning! HT



I have come home to find some lovely flowers in my porch. Thank you so very much I am really blessed and grateful. With love JR



Thank you so much for the beautiful flowers delivered to me last week, they came as a great surprise! MW